

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 13-22, as follows:

Metadata can exist in many different forms. For instance, metadata may be embedded together with media data by the media data creators in advance (e.g., motion picture scene segment information provided with a DVD). Metadata may also be created in accordance with a viewer's viewing history and stored in a media data audio-video device. Further, metadata may be actively created by a viewer (e.g., a viewer's impressions of a movie, a viewer's comments on a favorite scene ~~thereof~~ thereof).

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 8-19, as follows:

The metadata creating portion 13 may be ~~[[use]]~~ used to create standard metadata associated with received media data, such as the broadcast time and date, broadcast station, and time duration of the media data. The metadata creating portion 13 also allows a viewer to create metadata corresponding to media data. For instance, the metadata creating portion 13 allows a viewer to create metadata containing the viewer's impression or critique of the media data, or the viewer's comments on specific portions of the media data. A detailed explanation of the operation of the metadata creating portion 13 is provided below.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 3 to page 21, line 8, as follows:

Referring to Figure 6, an example of a search result display screen obtained by selecting one of the METADATA SEARCH buttons (SB1, SB2 or SB3) is shown. As shown, the search result display screen shows metadata associated with the baseball media data (MD1) shown in Figure 5. A media data displaying portion 71 displays the contents of the media data (MD1) with a thumbnail icon, the broadcasting start year/date/time, the total broadcasting duration and the broadcasting station name. A media data time-line 72 indicates

the amount of overlapping time of the media data with selected metadata found in the search. A metadata name displaying portion 73 displays the contents of the metadata search results. For instance, the metadata name displaying portion 73 may display "COMMENTARIES ARE ADDED TO EACH PLAY IN THE BASEBALL BROADCAST" to reflect a metadata search result of commentaries about each play in a baseball game broadcast on a certain day. A metadata time-line 74 indicates the amount of media data stored in the media data storing portion 15 that corresponds to search result metadata. Portions corresponding to existing media data are shown in white whereas portions not corresponding to existing media data are shown in black. Selecting a portion of the metadata time-line 74 changes the media data time-line 72 depending on the time data of the selected metadata. Also, depending on the metadata of the metadata time-line 74 on which the user places the pointer, the time overlapping portions will be indicated in white and the remaining portions will be indicated in black. Thus, only the portions for reproducing metadata will be indicated in white and the remaining portions will be indicated in black.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 18 to page 27, line 15, as follows:

A second difference is that check boxes 602 may be selected to display only the metadata created by a popular or notable person (herein "expert") among all other metadata creators. Selecting check box 602 causes the metadata search results created by the expert to be displayed. The data indicating who is an expert is given by the information processing portion 22 of the server 20 shown in Figure 1B. Each time metadata is read from the metadata storing portion 23 and exchanged among the media data audio-visual devices (10-1,...,10-n), the information processing portion 22 identifies the metadata creator using creator authentication data embedded in the metadata, and then increments expert degree data of the

specified metadata creator. The expert degree data may be stored in the metadata storing portion 23. When the expert degree data reaches at least a predetermined value, the information processing portion 22 sets a flag representing the title of expert. An expert may also be determined based on the degree of attention to a particular metadata obtained by dividing the number of times the metadata is retrieved by the time period of the retrievals. The expert data ~~also~~ may also be classified into genres, such as drama, news and sports, and may be designated by different flags.

Please cancel the original Abstract at page 44, prenumbered lines 1-25 in its entirety, and insert therefor the following replacement Abstract on a separate sheet as follows: